

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 MANILA 06996 220219Z

21

ACTION EA-06

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 L-01 H-02 INR-05 PRS-01 SP-02

NSC-05 NSCE-00 /037 W

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R 220124Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY MANILA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3673

S E C R E T MANILA 6996

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS, PFOR, RP

SUBJECT: PROCULO RODRIGUEZ

REF: STATE 008502

1. WE BELIEVE CONTINUED UNFETTERED AND BLATANT ACTIVITIES OF PROCULO RODRIGUEZ PLACES US IN POTENTIALLY VERY EMBARRASSING POSITION. LATEST FBI INTERVIEW WITH RODRIGUEZ (DATED APRIL 25) MADE AVAILABLE TO US HERE INDICATES RODRIGUEZ HAS BECOME OPENLY BOASTFUL OF HIS ANTI-MARCOS ACTIVITIES AND EVEN WENT SO FAR AS TO CHALLENGE JUSTICE DEPARTMENT TO ACT AGAINST HIM FOR VIOLATION OF HIS PERMANENT RESIDENT STATUS.

2. ON BASIS OF RODRIGUEZ'S PROCLAIMED OBJECTIVES AND KNOWN ACTIVITIES WE WOULD THINK DEPARTMENT NOT ONLY HAS GROUNDS ON WHICH TO BRING ACTION AGAINST RODRIGUEZ BUT SHOULD ACT AGAINST HIM. WE RECOGNIZE SENSITIVITY AND UNUSABLE NATURE OF SOME EVIDENCE THAT MIGHT BE BROUGHT TO BEAR. WE SUPPORT OUR TRADITIONAL CONCERN FOR FREEDOM OF SPEECH BUT SURELY AN ACTIONABLE DISTINCTION CAN BE DRAWN, FOR EXAMPLE, BETWEEN A POLITICAL ACTIVIST LIKE MANGLAPUS AND AN ASPIRING POLITICAL ASSASSIN LIKE RODRIGUEZ.

3. DEPARTMENT MAY WISH TO WEIGH INTO ANY CONSIDERATION

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PAGE 02 MANILA 06996 220219Z

OF ACTION AGAINST RODRIGUEZ FACT THAT FILIPINO AUTHORITIES

TEND TO REGARD OUR CONCERN FOR HUMAN RIGHTS HERE AS
ESSENTIALLY A CONCERN FOR POLITICAL OPPOSITION TO MARCOS.
HOWEVER FAR FETCHED IT MAY BE, THAT CONCERN IS ATTRIBUTED
IN PART TO ACTIVITIES OF MANGLAPUS, OSMENA AND LOPEZ.
TOLERATION OF INCREASINGLY BOASTFUL ANTI-MARCOSITE SUCH
AS RODRIGUEZ CONSEQUENTLY SEEN IN SAME LIGHT.

4. ADVISE WHAT ACTION DEPARTMENT CAN TAKE AGAINST
RODRIGUEZ.
SULLIVAN

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: GOVERNMENT OVERTHROW, MILITARY ASSISTANCE, POLICIES, EXTREMISTS, THREATS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 22 MAY 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975MANILA06996
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750179-0581
From: MANILA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750528/aaaaaymm.tel
Line Count: 71
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 STATE 008502
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 23 JUL 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <23 JUL 2003 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <24 JUL 2003 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PROCULO RODREGUEZ
TAGS: PINS, PFOR, RP, US, (PROCULO RODREGUEZ)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006